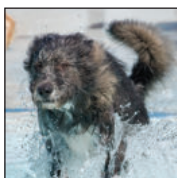




New Deal Café
30 years, p.12



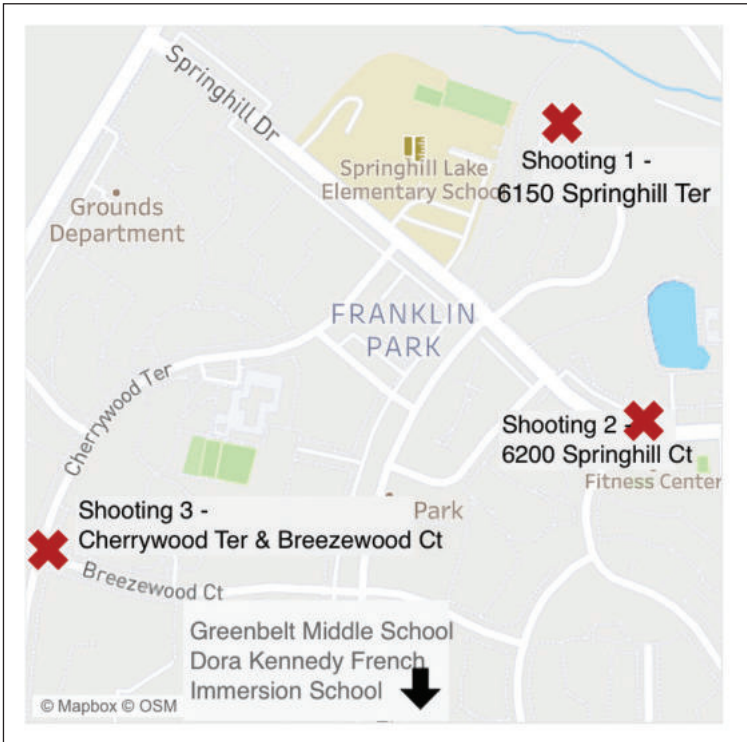
Pooch Plunge,
p.14

Three Dead from Gun Violence Including Local 14-Year-Old

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

A 25-year-old man and a 14-year-old boy were fatally shot in separate incidents in Greenbelt over the weekend. Meanwhile, another man died Sunday after succumbing to injuries from an earlier shooting. Juan Gonzalez, 25, Carlin Bayong, 14, and Mancel Johnson, 49, were all fatally shot in the Franklin Park area of the city. Gonzalez was shot at approximately 4:45 p.m. on Saturday, October 4 in the 6200 block of Springhill Court. Bayong was shot on Sunday, October 5 at approximately 1:45 p.m. in Cherrywood Terrace. Johnson was shot on September 12 at approximately 9:25 p.m. in the 6150 court of Springhill Terrace and, after being hospitalized in critical condition, he died Sunday (for reports on this shooting see the September 18 and September 25 issues). Gonzalez and Johnson were not Greenbelt

See VIOLENCE, page 14



The locations of recent fatal shootings in Greenbelt

MAP BY JIM THOMPSON

Annual Utopia Film Festival Coming October 18, 19, 20

by Susan Gervasi



PHOTO COURTESY FILMFREWAY

From the documentary Projecting Protest

From filmmakers in China, Iran and Italy to filmmakers in Greenbelt, Hyattsville and Takoma Park, 39 compelling works from near and far will screen at this year's Utopia Film Festival, October 18 to 20. Venues include the historic Greenbelt Cinema, New Deal Café and the Greenbelt Firehouse. The Festival, now in its 21st year, is sponsored by Greenbelt Access Television and a host of community businesses and supporters. "Over this brief weekend, you will be entertained, educated and touched by a variety of stories which have come to us from literally around the world," com-

mented Utopia's Executive Director Chris Haley. This year's films include environmental and political documentaries, feature films about the drama inherent in human relationships, the preservation and passing-on of traditional skills, the contributions of Black activists and transformational personal journeys. With political protest on just about everyone's mind, the documentary Projecting Protest explores a recent dimension in fighting back: activists who use "guerrilla light projection" to express political views on the blank screens of public buildings and

See UTOPIA, page 13

What Goes On

Monday, October 13
Columbus Day Holiday, City Offices Closed. No Council Meeting.
Tuesday, October 14
7:30 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building
Wednesday, October 15
7:30 p.m., Council Work-session: WSSC, Municipal Building

See the city ad on page 5 or the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for more information.

Election 2025

City Council Candidate Bios

The News Review has received biographies from Bill Orleans and incumbent Amy Knesel. Candidate biographies are prepared by the candidates and published in the order they are received by the paper.

Bill Orleans

When first permitted to run for council, or from council, as it may be, Orleans' biography was published in the October 20, 2011 issue of the News Review. It's archived, and can be read, new and improved at billorleans.com. It is a recitation of a few stories relevant to the construct of his character. He often has thought that many will have read the first clause of the first sentence, agreed with

See ORLEANS, page 7



PHOTO BY ERIC ZHANG

Bill Orleans

Amy Knesel

When Amy Knesel joined Greenbelt's City Council in January 2024, she expected to help guide the city through a time of transition. Instead, she quickly found herself immersed in the day-to-day life of local government: meeting fellow officials, learning about the challenges facing the city and listening to countless residents share their concerns, stories and hopes. What began as a short-term commitment became the most

See KNESEL, page 7



PHOTO COURTESY AMY KNESEL

Amy Knesel

Election 2025

Answers to Question 1

The News Review, as it does for every city council election, asked the candidates to respond to questions. Answers are limited to 150 words. If an answer exceeds the limit, the answer is cut off at that point. Responses will be published in various orders to avoid favoring candidates. Here are the answers we received to our first question.

Question 1: What is the most important thing the city council needs to accomplish in the upcoming term? How would you accomplish it and how would you pay for it?

Rodney M. Roberts

I want to focus on a project that can be done with state Program Open Space funds because Greenbelt is facing a five million dollar structural deficit. As a child growing up in Greenbelt,

the most beneficial aspects of Greenbelt were the ability to play in the woods and explore nature, an easy walk to participate in active sports that taught me how

See QUESTION 1, page 6



PHOTO BY JUDY GOLDBERG-STRASSLER

On Sunday, October 5, residents took part in the annual walk to Help Unite Greenbelt (HUG) With A Little Kindness. Joan Whelan is pictured with her sign. See story on page 9.

Election 2025

Questions Posed to Candidates

Question 2: Given current economic challenges facing city residents and facing the city, how would you change what the city spends its resources on?

Candidates are asked to submit their answers to the News Review by 6 p.m. on Monday, October 13, by email to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

In addition, on Thursday, October 9, the Greenbelt News Review, in partnership with Greenbelt Access Television (GATe), will pose questions to council candidates in person at a forum from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Greenbelt Firehouse. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. (see page 7).

Letters to the Editor

Fire Department Thanks You

On behalf of the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary, we would like to give a huge thank you to our wonderful friends, neighbors and beyond, for your participation and generosity in our last two fundraisers – our delicious bake sale and our raffle of a fire pit and bucket of cheer. All of our friends and neighbors have helped to make our fund-raising efforts very successful and popular. You have always been there to support us and cheer us on; for that we thank you so very, very much. May you always know that we are here for you 365-24-7. See you at our next bake sale and indoor community yard sale coming up in November. Again,

many thanks, Greenbelt continues to be GREAT.

Kathy Reynolds
GVFD Auxiliary

Annexation Not Necessary?

Thank you for the detailed article (October 2) on the potential annexation of WMATA and Beltsville Agricultural Research Center areas adjacent to Greenbelt. The annexation will make it easier for the city to oppose development of the property if it is sold.

I'm not sure that annexation, which appears to be an extensive, expensive process, is required to achieve that objective. The Maryland Code (Land Use, § 25-211) already says, If the United

See LETTERS, page 13

On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

One Battle After Another

Bob is a washed-up revolutionary who lives in a state of stoned paranoia, surviving off-grid with his spirited and self-reliant daughter, Willa. When his evil nemesis resurfaces and Willa goes missing, the former radical scrambles to find her as both father and daughter battle the consequences of their pasts. Said critic David Klion of the New Republic, “Somehow, a slacker epic decades in the making turns out to be exactly the movie for right now.”

The Smashing Machine

This is the story of Mixed Martial Arts fighter Mark Kerr (Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson) who reaches the peak of his career but faces personal hardships along the way.

The Baltimorons

On Christmas Eve, Cliff, a down-on-his-luck comedian who can’t catch a break, chips a tooth and suddenly finds himself in the late-night care of Didi, a sharp-witted, no-nonsense dentist. What should have been a quick fix unfolds into an unforgettable night of unexpected twists, comic mishaps and a brewing heartfelt connection. Their holiday misadventures lead to the discovery that the best gifts aren’t under the tree – they’re the ones you never saw coming. Directed by Jay Duplass.

Broadcast News

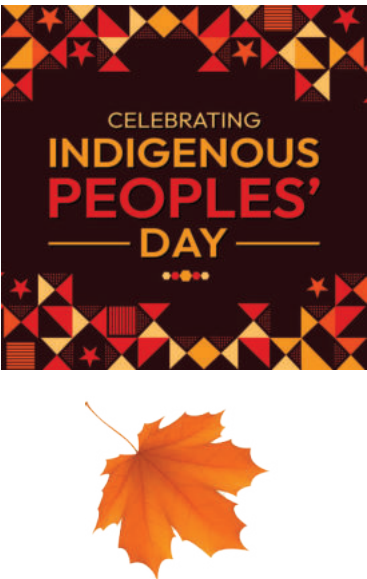
In this intelligent satire of American television news, a highly strung news producer finds herself strangely attracted to a vapid anchorman even though she loathes everything he personifies. To make matters worse, her best friend, a talented but not particularly telegenic news reporter, is secretly in love with her.

A Nightmare on Elm Street

In Wes Craven’s classic slasher film, several Midwestern teenagers fall prey to Freddy Krueger (Robert Englund), a disfigured midnight mangler who preys on the teenagers in their dreams – which, in turn, kills them in reality. After investigating the phenomenon, Nancy (Heather Langenkamp) begins to suspect that a dark secret kept by her and her friends’ parents may be the key to unraveling the mystery, but can Nancy and her boyfriend Glen (Johnny Depp) solve the puzzle before it’s too late?

Mulholland Drive

A dark-haired woman (Laura Elena Harring) is left as an amnesiac after a car crash. She wanders the streets of Los Angeles in a daze before taking refuge in an apartment. There she is discovered by Betty (Naomi Watts), a wholesome Midwestern blonde who has come to the City of Angels seeking fame as an actress. Together, the two attempt to solve the mystery of Rita’s true identity. The story is set in a dream-like Los Angeles, spoilt neither by traffic jams nor smog.



greenbelt CINEMA

Greenbelt Cinema
129 Centerway
301-329-2034
www.greenbeltcinema.org

Members always \$7.00!
Member kids are always FREE!

After 5 PM: adults \$10, kids \$7,
senior/student/military \$9

Before 5 PM:
general admission \$8, kids \$6

OC = Open Captions
CC = Closed Captions
DVS = Descriptive Video Service

SHOWTIMES:
OCTOBER 10th - 16th

One Battle After Another (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (170 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Fri. 4:30 PM, 8:00 PM
Sun. 12:10 PM (OC), 3:30 PM
Tues. 7:00 PM
Wed. 7:00 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Sat. 4:20 PM, 7:45 PM
Mon. 1:30 PM, 5:00 PM
Thurs. 7:30 PM

The Smashing Machine (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (123 mins)
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM
Mon. 2:10 PM (OC), 5:15 PM
Thurs. 5:15 PM
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 7:45 PM
Sun. 2:15 PM
Tues. 8:00 PM
Wed. 5:20 PM

The Baltimorons (R)
(CC) (DVS) (2025) (100 mins)
Screen 2 - The Screening Room
Fri. 5:00 PM
Sun. 5:00 PM
Tues. 5:40 PM
Wed. 8:00 PM

Broadcast News
(R) (1987) (127 mins)
With special guest
Arch Campbell
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sat. 1:00 PM

A Nightmare on Elm Street
(R) (1984) (91 mins)
Sunday Scaries
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Sun. 7:00 PM

Mulholland Drive
(R) (2001) (147 mins)
Cult Classic
Screen 1 - Main Auditorium
Thurs. 8:00 PM

PETE REPPERT

IT'S FALL...I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I'M PUMPED.

- News Review, October 12, 2023

Letters Policy During City Elections

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer’s name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.

In an election year, the News Review will not print a letter raising a new issue the week prior to election day, when no other party would have a chance to respond.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Mary Lou Williamson, Editor
Anna Bedford-Dillow, Managing Editor

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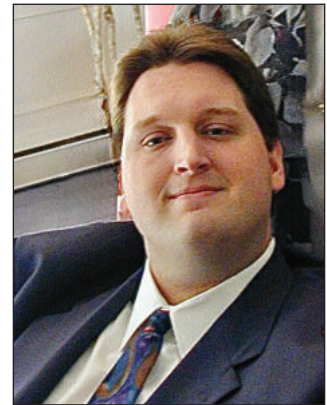
PUBLICATION DEADLINES:
- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 5 p.m. Co-op dropbox: Classified ads with payment only.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday, 2 - 4 p.m.
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the Municipal Building.

Obituaries

Thomas Beigel



Tom Beigel

Tom Beigel died unexpectedly at his home in Beltsville on August 21, 2025. He was 51 years old and had been ill. Born in Silver Spring, he lived in the area all his life, including 10 years in Greenbelt. Tom's spirit was one that brightened the lives of all who knew him.

Tom's educational journey led him to the University of Maryland in College Park. He moved to Greenbelt, especially because there was a bus line, when he began his studies in fire protection engineering, earning a bachelor's degree in 1997 and a master's degree in mechanical engineering in 2001. After 10 years in Greenbelt, he found a home in Beltsville, but he still did his grocery shopping at the Co-op and closely followed events and happenings in Greenbelt.

In 2002, Tom began his career as a lecturer at the A. James Clark School of Engineering. His passion for teaching started when he was a teaching assistant for Advanced Strength of Materials, showing his early love for teaching and sincere desire to help others and those around him learn and succeed in engineering. In 2006, he became a full-time instructor for the Keystone Program, where he helped transform the lives of countless students, who fondly remember him as an enthusiastic mentor and a guiding light in their pursuit of engineering excellence. Tom's impact resonated deeply among his students, many of whom have blossomed into successful engineers under his guidance.

Beyond academia, Tom was a passionate gamer who reveled in the immersive worlds of Dungeons and Dragons and a variety of board games. He also enjoyed watching Strongman competitions, Jeopardy and the intricate art of Weaponsmithing.

He is survived by his fiancée, Laura Coulson of Conowingo; his mother, Carol Robertson Beigel, and stepmother, Martha Gay; grandfather, Russell Robertson; aunt, Nancy Beigel of Beltsville; as well as three uncles and two nephews. He was predeceased by his father, Fred Beigel, and his sister, Amy Russell, who left an indelible mark on his heart.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday, November 4 at 4 p.m. at the University of Maryland, where family, friends and colleagues will gather to honor and remember the vibrant spirit of Thomas Howard Beigel. Tom's legacy of love, laughter and learning will continue to inspire all who were fortunate enough to know him.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Keystone Program at go.umd.edu/TBKeystone, a cause

close to Tom's heart. He was deeply committed to enhancing the quality of undergraduate education within the Clark School, and the program reflects his passion for supporting and inspiring the next generation of engineers.

Thomas Foerter



Tom Foerter

Thomas "Tom" O'Donnell Foerter, a 43-year resident of Greenbelt, and native of Lanham, died peacefully on October 5, 2025, at the age of 67. Born on October 24, 1957, Tom was known for his humor, kindness and generosity. A proud father and grandfather, lovingly known as "PopPop," he brought laughter and light to everyone he met. His quick wit and love of dad jokes were as much a part of him as his harmonica, which he played often and with joy.

He loved good conversation, helping others and cheering for his favorite football team, now known as the Commanders. Tom lived a life filled with music, family and community, leaving behind countless fond memories for all who had the privilege of knowing him.

He was preceded in death by his beloved son, Justin Foerter, his father, Conrad Foerter, and his mother, Adele Foerter.

He is survived by his significant other, Stacey Dawson; daughter Kristel Rabideau; son William Keith; and grandson Luka Rabideau. He also leaves behind extended family and dear

friends who will forever cherish his memory, his laughter and the warmth he shared so freely.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, October 12 at 1:30 p.m. at Kalas Funeral Home, 2973 Solomons Island Road in Edgewater.

In honor of Tom's lifelong loyalty to Washington football, guests are encouraged to wear burgundy and gold or their favorite gear. Friends are also invited to bring a favorite dad joke to share in the guest book or during the service.

Tom's spirit, humor and music will continue to live on in the hearts of all who loved him.



Paul Remenick

A celebration of the life of Paul Remenick will be held at the Greenbelt American Legion on Sunday, October 12 at 2 p.m. Paul's friends and customers are invited. A buffet will be provided. You are invited to bring a dessert to share if you would like.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704

301-937-4292 www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org

Welcomes you each Sunday for

Worship & Sunday School

at 10:00 AM

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

One Hillside Road

Join Us Sunday

10:15 AM for Worship

www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

We Are an Open and Affirming Church

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am*, Sat 9am*
- Sunday Mass:
 - Sat vigil 5pm*
 - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

www.sthughofgrenoble.org

*Live streamed on Facebook and available on our YouTube page later.

Condolences to the family and friends of Thomas Beigel who died on August 21. He lived in Greenbelt for 10 years. In his teaching career at the University of Maryland he was an inspiring mentor with great impacts on the careers of young engineers.

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Thomas Foerter who died on October 5. A long-time resident of Greenbelt, he was known for his love of music and his dad jokes.

Our condolences to the friends and family of Carltin Bayong, Juan Gonzalez and Mancel Johnson, who tragically lost their lives over the weekend as a result of gun violence.

Our thoughts are with furloughed federal workers and contractors and those working without pay under the current shutdown.

Congratulations to the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Raiders girls soccer team on their recent victory and rise to first place in the current Prince George's County 4A League standings. Congratulations, also, to the Junior Varsity Team on their recent win.

Send details of your news to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open Minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-5410

Pastor Evelyn Romero

Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Season of Rest

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

Mass Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Community Center Room 114

15 Crescent Rd

cathcomgreenbelt.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!

A Roman Catholic Intentional Eucharistic Community

OR - Join us on ZOOM!

For ZOOM link:

[CCGI985-owner@groups.io](https://ccgi985-owner@groups.io)

"God's Bounty is for all and gives power for all progress. When men own the equality of women there will be no need for them to struggle for their rights!"

- 'Abdu'l-Bahá

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

www.greenbeltbahais.org

The Bible Says...

The Ten Commandments

#6-You Shall Not Murder

Exodus 20:13

Sunday Worship Services

10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School (66 Ridge Rd.)

MCFcc.org

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm

Saturday morning services at 10:00am

Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities

For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org

Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725

Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

October 12, 2025, at 3 p.m.

What's in a Name? (Indigenous Peoples Day)

Anthony Jenkins with Worship Associate Lula Beatty

In the spirit of Indigenous People's Day and our October theme (People of the Heart), we'll share a service exploring the act of naming as an affirmation of identity, a heart-opening spiritual practice, and a social justice.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.



GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30 pm

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge
Petitions and Requests
Consent Agenda
- Resignation/Appointment to Advisory Board
- Council Meeting Minutes
- Authorization for City Manager to Purchase Mower for Public Works Department
*** Committee Reports**
* Advisory Committee on Education - Report #25-4 - Annual Request for Proposals for Grant Request
* Authorization for Replacement of HVAC Unit at Youth Center for Mom's Morning Out Program
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
Minutes
- Statement of Record - Closed Session, September 10, 2025
Administrative Reports

LEGISLATION

- Ordinance Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation to the General Fund for Arts Program Support – Maryland State Arts Council FY2026 Grant; -1st Reading

OTHER BUSINESS

- Draft FY 2026-2031 Maryland Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP)
- Approval of the Economic Development Strategic Plan
- Authorization for City Manager to Purchase a Public Works Vehicle
- Legislation Priority Discussion
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- Meetings

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

This agenda is subject to change. For the most up-to-date agenda, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV or call (301) 474-8000.

MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 13-17

Monday, October 13, **NO MEETING - MML FALL CONFERENCE**

Wednesday, October 15 at 6:30 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD MEETING**, *On the Agenda: Discussion on Proposed APB Bylaws and Final Concurrence on APB Report to Council on the Traffic Calming Study*

Wednesday, October 15th at 6:30 pm, **CLOSED SESSION**

Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - WSSC**

Thursday, October 16 at 7 pm, **COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov/calendar.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

By Section 3-305(b)(7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on **Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.**, in the Library of the Municipal Building, to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

*** The public may attend the Special Council Meeting of the City Council immediately before the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, October 15, 2025.**

- Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

GREENBELT ANIMAL SERVICES REMINDER

As we approach the end of 2025, Greenbelt Animal Services would like to remind you that if you are a resident within the City of Greenbelt, you are eligible to receive a FREE spay/neuter and rabies vaccination through the MDA Grant until December 31, 2025. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to help control the pet population and keep your pet healthier.

If you are interested in applying for the FREE spay/neuter, please contact Greenbelt Animal Services at animalservices@greenbeltmd.gov or call us at 301-474-6124. Don't Delay, Neuter and Spay!

DIABETES EDUCATION CLASS & SCREENING

Class: November 7, 10am-11am - Screening: November 14, 10am-12pm
Greenbelt Community Center

Join Dr. Florence Awosika, DNP, APRN, CDCES and discover how to care for yourself in ways that lead to a healthier life. This diabetes wellness education class focuses on self-care, empowering you to make informed decisions and take charge of your well-being.

GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY MEETING

Thursday, October 16, 6:30-8pm. Community Center Room 109

The Greenbelt Police Department invites you to join a community meeting to discuss trends and prevention.

GREENBELT ELECTION INFORMATION

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

DATES & DEADLINES: 2025 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

☒	First day to receive papers and file nomination petition	8/18
☒	Last day to file nomination petition (by 5pm)	9/22
☒	Date of drawing for placement on ballot – 7pm	9/22
☒	First Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	9/26
☒	First day to send out mail-in ballots	10/3
☒	Last day to register to vote (must be received by 4:30pm Upper Marlboro)	10/6
	Second Interim Campaign Contributions & Expenditures Report (by 12pm)	10/24
	Early Voting begins .	11/1-11/2
	Training session for Election Judges and Clerks	11/3
	Election 7am-8pm	11/4
	Mail-in ballots must be received by 6pm	11/4
	Final Contributions & Expenditures Report (12pm)	11/7
	Charter Meeting for swearing-in at 7:30pm	11/10

For additional information, contact Bonita Anderson, City Clerk, at (301) 474-8000 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

CITY ELECTION INFORMATION

ANY REGISTERED GREENBELT RESIDENT MAY CHOOSE TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN

VOTING BY MAIL: Any qualified voter of the City of Greenbelt may choose to vote by MAIL-IN BALLOT.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WILL RECEIVE IN THE MAIL AN APPLICATION TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN BALLOT. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO VOTE BY MAIL, YOU MAY DISREGARD THE APPLICATION. YOU MAY VOTE AT ANY POLLING LOCATION ON ELECTION DAY.

Military service members, their families, and other U.S. citizens abroad who are covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act may also use the Federal Post Card Application (<http://www.fvap.gov>) to request an absentee ballot for City election.

Applications to receive mail-in ballot must be received by noon on Monday, November 3, 2025. We encourage you to return your application (by mail or in-person) as soon as possible.

Return your executed mail-in ballot by

- 1) Sending it through the U.S. mail in time to arrive by November 3,
- 2) Hand-delivering it to the City Clerk's office, or
- 3) Place it into one of the three drop-box locations. (Police Station, Schrom Hills Park and Springhill Lake Recreation Center)

Questions? Call the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000, or send email to banderson@greenbeltmd.gov.

SAMPLE 2025 ELECTION BALLOT

To view the sample ballot online, visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/election.

Official City of Greenbelt, MD Election Ballot
Boleta Electoral Oficial de la Ciudad de Greenbelt, MD
November 4, 2025 / 4 de noviembre de 2025



Fill in the oval to the left of the name of your choice. You must fill the oval completely, and do not make any marks outside of the oval. Use the same pen for all markings on the ballot. Do not cross out or erase, or your vote may not count. If you make a mistake or a stray mark, ask for a new ballot from the election judges.

Rellene el óvalo a la izquierda del nombre que elija. Debe rellenarlo completamente y no hacer marcas fuera del óvalo. Utilice el mismo bolígrafo para todas las marcas en la papeleta. No tache ni borre nada, ya que su voto podría no ser válido. Si comete un error o una marca fuera de lugar, solicite una nueva papeleta a los jueces electorales.

Councilmember (Vote for not more than seven (7))
Miembro del Concejo Municipal (Vota por no más de siete (7))

☐ Frankie Santos Fritz

☐ Bill Orleans

☐ Kristen L. V. Weaver

☐ Silke I. Pope

☐ Emmett V. Jordan

☐ Rodney M. Roberts

☐ Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart

☐ Danielle P. McKinney

☐ Jenni Pompi

☐ Amy Knesel

Write-In / Escribir

Write-In / Escribir

Write-In / Escribir

Write-In / Escribir

Write-In / Escribir

Write-In / Escribir

Advisory Referendum 1: Ranked Choice Voting
Do you approve of the City using Ranked Choice Voting for all City Council Member elections and amending the City Charter's forty percent (40%) threshold criteria (Sec 31)?

With Ranked Choice Voting, voters rank candidates in order of preference. Votes are considered in voters' order of preference and are redistributed as winners are determined (based on a threshold related to the number of seats) and last place candidates are eliminated.

Referendum consultivo 1: Votación por orden de preferencia
¿Aprueba que la Ciudad utilice el sistema de votación por orden de preferencia para todas las elecciones de miembros del Concejo Municipal y modifique el criterio del umbral del cuarenta por ciento (40 %) del Estatuto de la Ciudad (Sección 31)?

Con la votación por orden de preferencia, los votantes clasifican a los candidatos según su preferencia. Los votos se contabilizan según su orden de preferencia y se redistribuyen a medida que se determinan los ganadores según un umbral relacionado con el número de plazas y se eliminan los candidatos que quedan en último lugar.

☐ Yes / Sí ☐ No / No



To write in a qualified candidate who is not already on the ballot, fill in the oval and write the name of the person on the line.

Para incluir a un candidato calificado que aún no esté en la boleta, rellene el óvalo y escriba el nombre de la persona en la línea.

Advisory Referendum 2: Council Term Length
Should the Charter be amended to change Council terms from two years to four years?

Referendum consultivo 2: Duración del mandato del Consejo
¿Debería modificarse el Estatuto para cambiar el mandato del Consejo de dos a cuatro años?

☐ Yes / Sí ☐ No / No

Advisory Referendum 3: Recall
If four-year terms are approved, should Council Members be subject to Voter Recall petitions during their terms in office?

Referendum consultivo 3: Revocación
Si se aprueban mandatos de cuatro años, ¿deberían los miembros del Consejo estar sujetos a peticiones de revocación de mandato durante sus mandatos?

☐ Yes / Sí ☐ No / No

Election Judge Use Only / Uso exclusivo del juez electoral

Precinct (Circle One) / Recinto (Circule uno)

E M 3 6 8 13 18

City of Greenbelt (CS 2) - EC:702135

CURRENT GAIL PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs **FREE** of charge. For more information, email Brendy Maddox at bgarcia@greenbeltmd.gov or (202) 670-6497.

- **OPEN COMPUTER LAB FOR ADULTS** 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Weekly sign-up required.
- **DEMENTIA WEBINARS** 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/13 at 7 pm on Zoom.
- **FREE MONTHLY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION.** Greenbelt Residents Only. First time participants must provide proof of residency, state-issued ID, birth certificate (or copy) for each child.
- **AGING SOLO.** Oct 15, 22, 29 from 1-2:30pm on Zoom. Learn to set priorities, build your support network, and put your plans into action.

A majority (or quorum) of Greenbelt City Council members may attend community organization meetings, but no official Council action will be taken at these meetings. Please note that meeting locations may change after being published. For information on how to join these meetings, contact the respective organization directly.

* VOLUNTEER * VACANCIES * APPLY FOR A COMMITTEE OR BOARD TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Advisory Committee on Education, Advisory Committee on Trees, Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Charter Review Task Force, Community Relations Advisory Board, Ethics Commission, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Park and Recreation Advisory Board, or Youth Advisory Committee** and make a difference in Greenbelt!

Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts for more information and many other opportunities!

Sign up for ARTFANS, a weekly e-newsletter, at www.greenbeltmd.gov/list.aspx.

FREE Artful Afternoon. Sunday, October 12, 1:30-2:30pm, Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane. Art and dance activities for all ages! Try your hand at needle felting, hand stitching and more in collaborative fiber art banners. Also, make watercolor leaf prints, and learn a dance to perform at the Wild Rumpus! More information and sign up at sugeni.us/ecb4.

FREE Fall Mosaic Workshops
Tuesdays, October 14 & 28, 6-8pm, Greenbelt Community Center. Join the crew from Empact Art and contribute to a mosaic that will adorn the surface of the new sculpture "Joy." Advance sign-up at sugeni.us/eWCH. Walk-ins welcome as space and supplies permit.

MORE ARTS HAPPENING SOON

- **Magic Wand Workshop** (wood carving) 10/11, 9:30am-12:30pm Greenbelt Community Center
- **Friends and Family Workshop (all ages):** Craft Decorative Cornhusk People. 10/17, 5:30-7:30pm, Greenbelt Community Center.
- **Wild Rumpus dance workshop (ages 5 - adult)** 10/22, 6:30pm, Greenbelt Community Center. FREE! Walk-ins welcome.

SENIOR TECH CAFE

Sundays - October 26, November 23 from 1-3 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, Room 109, 15 Crescent Road

Whether you're new to computers, iPhone, Android or just need a little guidance, we will do our very best to help! Don't miss this opportunity to have your questions answered. We look forward to helping you get started!

Note: We are not a "Genius Bar" and do not fix devices, but we're more than happy help you learn how to make the most of your technology.

FREE. Drop-in, first come first serve, no registration required, bring a friend!

Contact Priya Gardner Lemieux at pgardner@greenbeltmd.gov | (240) 542-2056.

UPCOMING NATURE EVENTS

Gardening Get Togethers. Every Wednesday through October, 10am-12pm. **Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent.** Join City Staff and Community Members as we work to maintain the Pollinator Gardens at Buddy Attick Park! Activities will include mulching, weeding, and planting native perennial species. [Sign-up](#) here.

Fall Planting Volunteer Event. Saturday, October 11, 10am-1pm. **Path between 4 & 6 Courts Ridge Road.** Join a community effort to restore native plant species to our environment. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff and Park Rangers to plant native trees and shrubs in Greenbelt's understory. [Sign-up](#) here.

Questions & comments to kdrriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov or (240) 542-2168.

Election 2025

QUESTION 1 continued from page 1

to socialize and work with others to achieve a common goal, and an easy walk to arts programs where for five cents I could get a huge hunk of clay so I could make anything I wanted and let my imagination grow. For far too long the children of Franklin Park/Greenbelt West have been denied these opportunities. It's time to right this wrong while the land is still available. Let's build a real park for the children of Greenbelt West; it will benefit us all!

Jenni Pompi

In its next term, council needs to solidify a plan for the Armory property. Acquiring such a property is a once-in-a-generation opportunity, and it must be developed thoughtfully and sustainably. This property would be ideal for substantial, affordable, intergenerational housing on the current paved footprint. It would be essential to keep the forested area on the property intact, but also to include pedestrian and bicycle trails to connect the new housing to the city center, and to work with the county to strengthen connections across Greenbelt Road to make Greenway Center more accessible. To accomplish and afford this project, the city should partner with the UMD School of Architecture for a green, sustainable design and a nonprofit housing development corporation to help fund, plan and manage construction, and possibly assist with property management once the building is completed. Adding solar to the project could increase sustainability and affordability.

Danielle P. McKinney

In the upcoming term, city council must ensure that Greenbelt residents – especially those facing job loss, food insecurity or housing challenges – have access to resources they need to thrive. Preserving land and local jobs connected to BARC, Goddard and the career firefighters is vital to Greenbelt's stability and identity. I will continue advocating for safe, affordable housing and supporting rent stabilization to help residents stay rooted in our community. Advancing Greenbelt's Economic Development Strategy is also essential to attracting innovative, future-focused employers and strengthening workforce development for the jobs of tomorrow.

To fund these efforts, I support phasing select capital improvements and purchases, tightening operational costs and pursuing grants to grow initiatives like Greenbelt Grows, which tackles food insecurity through local growing, sustainability and community connection. Investing strategically and using our spaces creatively, we can keep Greenbelt strong, connected and ready for the future.

Silke I. Pope

The current state of public safety must be addressed by the Greenbelt City Council. The recent removal of two dozen career firefighters from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad has raised serious concerns regarding this agency's

emergency response times and overall quality of service.

Officials from the City of Greenbelt must take a proactive role in negotiations with Prince George's County government agencies to ensure the appropriate and necessary staffing of career firefighters in Greenbelt. Greenbelt residents must feel secure that the fastest possible response times coupled with the highest professional standards will be met during emergency situations.

To address this concern, the City of Greenbelt must continue to examine its existing budget and consider implementing a range of sound funding strategies that will introduce alternative models of emergency assistance including advanced partnerships with area fire departments, collaborations with local municipal governments and continued community input and involvement.

Kevin "Coach K" Lockhart

The most important thing council can accomplish in the upcoming term is building true unity across all parts of Greenbelt. For too long, our city has felt divided – Old Greenbelt, Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West – but we are one Greenbelt.

What happens in one area affects everyone. Strengthening that unity must be our top priority, because when communication, trust and collaboration improve, everything else falls into place.

Council and community must take a more hands-on approach to community engagements. That means regular face-to-face meetings in every neighborhood. Residents need to see their leaders present, listening and actively involved.

We must rebuild the bridge between residents and law enforcement. I would work to expand foot and bike patrols so officers can engage with residents.

Creating a Police Athletic League would bring positive partnerships between officers and youth through sports like basketball or baseball. This will cost nothing but time and effort.

Frankie Santos Fritz

We must broaden civic participation in our decision-making processes. Nearly 10,000 residents cast a ballot in the Presidential election in 2024, but only about 2,500 voted for city council in 2023. In the face of attacks by the Trump administration, we will need every resident at the table to help shape the future of our city to become a more affordable and inclusive community.

My campaign is prioritizing increasing turnout in all five precincts of our city including with events like our voter registration cookout in Franklin Park and Federal Furlough Fridays picnics to support and build community space for our federal workers and contractors during the shutdown.

We will face significant fiscal challenges in the next few years and our limited resources



moving forward should help enhance the reach and visibility of community-driven volunteer and mutual aid efforts organized by our neighbors across the region.

Kristen L.V. Weaver

Our primary task is optimizing our resources amid competing priorities heard from listening to Greenbelters. It's difficult to choose one most important.

We need to support our residents through the unsettled economy and social upheaval due to rapid and haphazard changes by the federal government. This includes efforts connecting people to existing resources funded by the county and state, and readjusting city activities to better meet our needs. Related opportunities like annexing BARC or other areas give us a greater voice in future changes.

We should explore micromobility options to fill gaps in public transit, funded by a combination of the city and stakeholder businesses.

A major opportunity (and simultaneous challenge) is the Armory. Excellent ideas came from the community engagement process so far, but the city can't afford them on our own. We need county, state or private partners for funding, and to ensure any development fits Greenbelt's character.

Amy Knesel

Last weekend, two people

in our city lost their lives to violence. It has shaken all of us. In response, city council should focus on rebuilding Greenbelt's sense of connection and belonging – especially for 16- to 25-year-olds, who too often lack third spaces. Greenbelt has strong roots in community centers and partner organizations; we can expand engagement opportunities so every young person has somewhere to go, something to do, someone who cares.

I would invest in a coordinated volunteer engagement hub, additional youth mentorship programs and stronger partnerships between the city, schools and nonprofits so residents can easily plug in. These aren't high-cost initiatives – most can be done through partnerships, modest budget reallocations and grants.

We will only become safer, stronger and more resilient together.

Bill Orleans

In a (once upon) time of megalomania raging elsewhere, we should resist its rise, or that of "minilomania," here; like a little acorn, either could grow to overwhelm those of us still interested in "keeping the republic." Where the big boss thinks he "can do anything I want," or that, "only I can" resolve, whatever the problem; or the lesser bosses believe, only they can know the secret sauce of local self governance, the people are in a pickle.

Most importantly, council should acknowledge that the seats they individually hold belong, not to them, but to the people. As a result of this election, the more significant change in its composition, the more clear it will be to those elected, it is Greenbelters who own council. It would not cost anything for

council to talk less and listen more at meetings and worksessions. Write in your neighbor!

Emmett V. Jordan

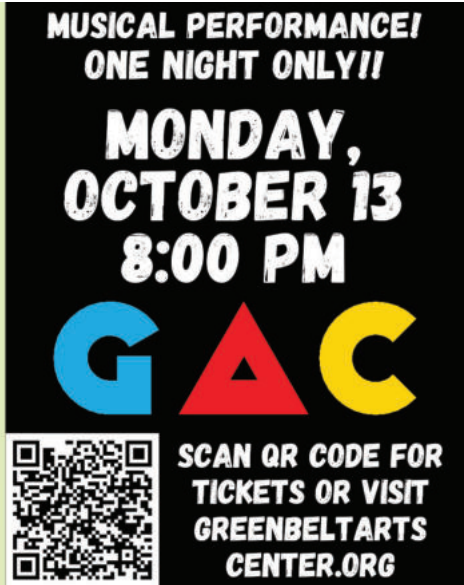
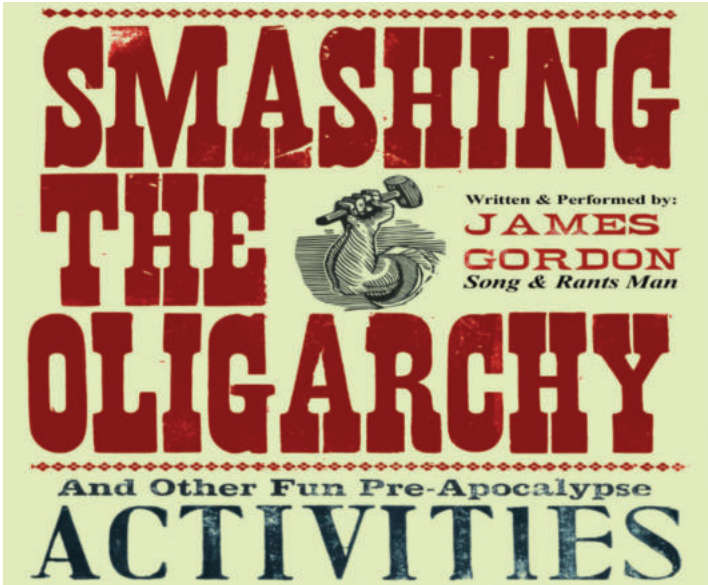
Council's top priority is to navigate fiscal challenges while safeguarding core city services – without raising taxes. Potential budget shortfalls, driven by our commitment to equitable pay and benefits for every employee, demand prudent action and strategic focus.

Federal workforce reductions and contractor cuts will shrink Greenbelt's tax base, requiring us to defer nonessential projects (such as the Armory), lengthen vehicle replacement cycles and streamline some programs.

Maintaining robust social services is vital. By collaborating with county and state agencies, and partnering with resident groups like Greenbelt CORES, we will build a strong safety net for residents affected by these changes.

Council must empower staff to aggressively assist with business retention, proactively spur economic development and compete for grants to bring in additional resources.

Through disciplined budgeting, open communication and unwavering commitment to resident services, we will ensure Greenbelt's future remains secure.



Election 2025

ORLEANS continued from page 1

it and read no further. When he returned to Greenbelt in 2004, it was not to win friends and influence council, it was from necessity. Life's potential was lost to him in NYC, where he had lived for 35 years, and indeed, his life, itself, was in question. Unemployable for more than a year, ethically, morally and financially in debt, drinking heavily, he returned to live, what he had reason to believe would be a short span of time, in his late mother's GHI home in the dead of night, and, not unpacking his car, drank himself to sleep. The next day he was informed by doctors that he could not live unless he stopped drinking. Hoping to resolve as much of his collective debts as would be possible, he was persuaded, drove back to Greenbelt and the next day fulfilled every good boy's obligation, got a library card and a change of registration form. That first week back, or the next, he went to his first Greenbelt City Council meeting. A Queen and her Consort, no less pompous and basely political than their big city counterparts, or than the Senator Snorts of Congress and no one was there to watch them cavort. Thus began Bill's last act, monitoring Greenbelt Council, and done mostly alone and made all the more difficult because he was engaging in this while sober.

KNESEL continued from page 1

meaningful work of her life: serving neighbors and strengthening the community that has shaped her for more than a decade.

A proud Greenbelt resident since 2014, Knesel was first drawn to the city's spirit of connection during her son's toddler years at Greenbelt Nursery School. She soon began volunteering, helping with community events and eventually serving on the school's board. Over the years, she has continued her involvement in many corners of Greenbelt life – from the Labor Day Festival to the Pumpkin Festival, Girl Scouts to youth soccer – always guided by the belief that Greenbelt's greatest strength is its people.

On council, Knesel has focused on protecting and expanding that strength. She has supported tenants facing displacement, championed fair housing protections and helped advance all-resident voting rights. She views her role as one of building trust, ensuring transparency and creating meaningful opportunities for participation in city decisions.

Looking ahead, Knesel's priorities include deepening civic engagement, expanding youth and family programs and strengthening partnerships between the city, schools and nonprofits. She is particularly focused on ensuring that Greenbelt's 16- to 25-year-olds have spaces to belong, connect and contribute – recognizing that these years are critical for fostering lifelong community ties.

Beyond her service to Greenbelt, Knesel's professional life has always centered on collaboration and care. With a background in nonprofit and community operations, she helps organizations build stronger systems and partnerships. She currently works for the Town of University Park, where her experience in local government complements her approach to council duties: practical, people-centered and grounded in shared responsibility.

Knesel believes Greenbelt's strength has always been its people. She is committed to making sure every resident has a voice, a place to belong and a chance to help shape the city's future – building a community that is stronger, more resilient and more connected with each passing year.

Learn more at amykforgreenbelt.com

2025 Election

Return Mail-in Ballot Applications As Soon As Possible to Vote in Time

Greenbelt residents recently began to receive applications for mail-in ballots in their mailboxes.

If a resident wishes to receive a mail-in ballot their application must be received by the city clerk no later than noon on Monday, November 3. However, they are encouraged to return their applications by mail or in person as soon as possible.

In order to be counted, the mail-in ballots themselves must be received by the city clerk by 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4.

If a mail-in ballot is lost or destroyed, a voter may vote provisionally at a polling location on Election Day.

Mail-in ballot applications have been mailed to residents.

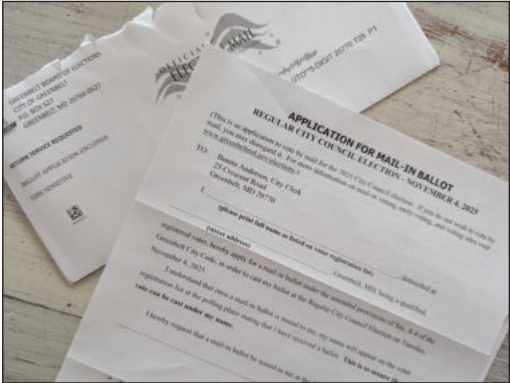


PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW



City Notes

Constituent Services hosted Salsa y Salsa, a Hispanic Heritage Month event. Several departments facilitated and attended that and the New Deal Café's 30th Anniversary celebration.

Economic Development attended the Maryland Aero Alliance Roundtable and spoke at the Future of Healthcare forum. Planning met with the county Planning Board chair, and Code Enforcement inspected 22 rentals.

Animal Shelter residents are five cats, five kittens and four dogs.

Public Works borrowed Laurel's hay wagon for Fall Fest and, at the Aquatic & Fitness Center, started building a retaining wall. The indoor pool reopened, and the outdoor pool closed for the season after the Pooch Plunge.

An Art Studio Open House featured activities and tours, and Therapeutic Recreation offered senior events featuring line dancing, healthy food and basketball.

Park Rangers facilitated the annual HUG WALK and many other community events.

The Museum offered a presentation about Victory Gardens and the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program hosted a Fall Prevention Awareness event for 32 attendees.



Greenbelt City Council Election Candidate Forum

Hear the candidates answer questions gathered from city residents

Thursday, October 9, 7 to 9 p.m.
(doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
Greenbelt Firehouse, 125 Crescent Rd.
Also livestreamed & recorded by GATE
tinyurl.com/GreenbeltCandidateForum2025

Hosted by the Greenbelt News Review in partnership with Greenbelt Access Television (GATe)

Click QR code to view forum on Zoom





On Nov. 4th, Vote to Re-Elect

DANIELLE MCKINNEY

For City Council

Working for Greenbelt residents to:

- Promote local jobs & innovation
- Champion safe and affordable housing
- Expand sustainability and local food initiatives
- Build a connected community

Connect with Danielle at:

www.daniellemckinney.com
(240) 540-4643
Danielle@daniellemckinney.com
[mckinneyforgreenbelt](#) [@](#)

Rooted in Service. Growing our Future.

By Authority of McKinney for Greenbelt City Council, Jeff VanCollins, Treasurer







Rumor said that "Print was dead." Not on our watch. This ad is \$46.

www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com



St. Hugh's Church 20th Annual Oktoberfest

October 11, 2025 5 p.m. -- **Until supplies last!**

St. Hugh's Church
135 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, Maryland

Musik Provided By
PHIL VENTURA

EVERYONE WELCOME!
JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION!
SEE YOU THERE!

Join Us for Authentic Food, Drink and Fun
GERMAN STYLE!
Sauerkraut, Pork Roast, Sausages,
Half Chicken, Lentils and Noodles,
Gulasch Soup, Potato Soup,
Radish Salad, and more...



Help Us Help You Help Greenbelt



Are you a local nonprofit that could use \$500-5000 in seed money for a project or endeavor? If so, the Greenbelt Community Foundation is here for you. Our fall grant cycle is going on right now (deadline October 15), and we're looking to give out money to worthy causes. Contact us at greenbeltcommunityfoundation@gmail.com or visit <https://greenbeltfoundation.org> for information on how to apply.

A Review

The Hot L Baltimore at GAC

by Christopher Stark

The third play of the 2025-2026 season at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) is Lanford Wilson’s *The Hot L Baltimore*. The play is set in the lobby of an old single-room-occupancy hotel in Baltimore, close to both the train lines and a date with demolition. Directed by Seth Ghitelman, this production runs through October 18.

The play opens with two characters on stage who have held their positions in the lobby as the audience arrived, snoozing even as the stage lights came up. The night clerk is the center of attention and abuse as the hotel’s inhabitants come into the lobby over the course of Act 1. Among this crowd, the role of a visiting man sleeping in an armchair is revealed relatively late. Meanwhile, the audience learns about the mix of sex workers, retirees and passers-through who make their homes in this decaying hotel with the broken sign missing an “e” out front.

The play premiered in 1973, and was a hit for Wilson, his Circle Repertory Company and off-Broadway theater. GAC has adapted the play well to its space and resources. While the plight of the characters may be associated with the heyday of urban renewal more than 50 years ago, it resonates today after gentrification and downtown arenas have as-



From left, Justin Oratokhai as Bill, Tracie Danforth Witte as Suzy, Iyanu Bishop as April and Morgan Fuller as Girl in *The Hot L Baltimore*

sumed the development spotlight to the detriment of residents and buildings like the Hot L Baltimore. The play ends with little resolution.

The hotel’s employees, residents and visitors are portrayed by a large and diverse group of actors who hold our attention to show us 15 different individuals. Those very capable performances

have, by the end, compelled our sympathy for a wide variety of characters, including an individual with mental illness whom the audience never sees.

GAC’s program states that this production contains coarse language and sexual references and discussion.

For tickets and more information, visit greenbeltartscenter.org.



Matthew Walker McLinden and Amber Tollefson with their three daughters Mabel, Sylvia and Edith, on a quick trip to Minnesota for a wedding in June



Peter Teuben stands in front of the classic Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva, the Capital of Fiji, which has over 300 islands. Peter went to this island, which is the biggest, and also to one of the smallest.



Pumpkin spice,
cozy sweaters...
and peace of mind

Schedule your
mammogram this fall

To make an appointment by phone, please call (888) 909-9729
for all Luminis Health Imaging locations.

Annapolis | Bowie | Kent Island | Lanham | Odenton



Visit Luminis.Health/Breast
to schedule your mammogram
in just a few minutes.

Greenbelt’s Sixth HUG Walk Emphasizes City Togetherness

by Ashna Balroop



About 40 Greenbelters participated in the HUG walk this year.

A crowd of roughly 40 Greenbelters walked across the city on Sunday, a sunny, 80-degree day, with the aim of spreading kindness and unity in the community for the sixth year in a row.

The walk, dubbed the Help Unite Greenbelt With A Little Kindness (abbreviated to HUG Walk), aims to promote harmony within the neighborhoods in Greenbelt and serves as a way for neighbors to become more familiar with each other. The Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness (RUAK) organization coordinated this event in partnership with the State of Maryland’s Walktober initiative and the City of Greenbelt.

The walk started outside the entrance to Indian Springs Trail, stopping at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, Buddy Attick Park and Greenbelt Lake, Roosevelt Center, Greenbriar Community Center, Windsor Green Community Center and Schrom Hills Park.

Robert Goldberg-Strassler, the event organizer and visionary of the HUG Walk, first launched this initiative in 2019 after attending multiple National Night Out events – which led him to realize that the community isn’t

really unified. So he created a unity walk in Greenbelt, a city segmented by multilane roadways like Greenbelt Road, Kenilworth Avenue, the Beltway and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

“I went about setting up to see if we can create a unity walk in Greenbelt, and I mapped it out ... to see if you can walk from one end of Greenbelt to another,” said Goldberg-Strassler.

The event, he said, creates a little sense of pride and promotes exploring and learning about Greenbelt. “People from all over the city, they join in, and they get to meet their neighbors they wouldn’t have otherwise met.”

Judith Rubinstein, a Greenbelt resident and federal civil servant, attended the walk for the second time and was glad to participate in this activity on a sunny day. “It’s a chance to meet people in Greenbelt and learn about all of the things Greenbelt has to offer,” Rubinstein said.

Rachel Alexander, another Greenbelt resident, was also excited to be in attendance. Alexander believes that helping to unite Greenbelt is an awesome concept. Joan Whelan, a former federal worker, also appreciated the walk’s message as she has at-

tended a lot of protests in recent times.

“It’s nice to be out promoting something positive for once,” she said.

Nicole Harvey, an Uber driver and medical assistant, attended the walk as an opportunity for health and fitness. She usually walks every day, so taking a walk with her community members underneath this messaging was an added bonus. “We all need a little kindness,” Harvey said. “And we’re getting to know our neighbors. It’s always interesting how people from different cultures and different backgrounds come together.”

The walk concluded at Schrom Hills Park, where residents crossed the finish line and enjoyed a special HUG Walk cake.

Ashna Balroop is a University of Maryland student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the Greenbelt News Review.



A procession of walkers



Gita Subramaniam and Vijay Parameshwaran with their sign at the HUG Walk

- Photos by Ashna Balroop



A cake enjoyed by participants at the end of the walk

PHOTO BY JUDY GOLDBERG-STRASSLER

RE-ELECT JENNI POMPI

FOR CITY COUNCIL

Jenni is a proven leader working hard for Greenbelt!

✓

VOTE FOR JENNI on Nov. 4 to:

• Keep Greenbelt safe and affordable

• Support smart economic development

• Improve pedestrian and bicycle safety

• Fight for Greenbelt’s values of equity, inclusion, and cooperation

Phone: 240-305-0643

Email: jenni@jennipompi.com

Website: jennipompi.com

By authority Jenni Pompi for Greenbelt, Kimberly Walsh, Treasurer

ROOSEVELT DEMOCRATIC CLUB

ANNUAL COOKOUT

Break buns with fellow Democrats and local leaders!

Sunday, Oct 26 | 2:30–5:00 PM

Schrom Hills Park, Greenbelt

Bring a dish to share!

Supporters Rally at Courthouse Again for Kilmar Abrego Garcia

by Christine Doran

On Monday, October 6, at the U.S. District Courthouse on Cherrywood Lane a large crowd gathered once again in support of Kilmar Abrego Garcia, the Beltsville man who was mistakenly deported to El Salvador last March and whose case continues despite his return to the U.S. in June. (See the August 27 issue for more background.) Abrego Garcia was released from custody in August but detained again by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) three days later. He is currently being held in ICE custody in Pennsylvania.

A court filing in September stated that the government planned to remove Abrego Garcia to Eswatini, Africa (formerly Swaziland), a country where he has no ties and that would most likely promptly send him back to El Salvador, where he fears for his safety. However, on Monday in Greenbelt the government's lawyers were unable to show that such removal was imminent. Attorneys for Abrego Garcia argued that the Department of Homeland Security may not keep an alien in custody indefinitely, and so he should either be freed or removed to his "designated" country of Costa Rica. Judge Paula Xinis gave the government 48 hours to produce evidence as to whether there's a significant likelihood of removal to Eswatini in the reasonable future.

An estimated 100 people – friends, family members, CASA members, the Rapid Response Choir and others – sang, marched and held signs outside the courthouse before the hearing began. Faith leaders and Prince George's County Councilmember Krystal Oriadha spoke to the crowd in support of Abrego Garcia. After the court adjourned, Abrego Garcia's attorney, Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg, spoke to the press. The next hearing will be on Friday at 11 a.m.

Repair Café Saturday, Oct. 18

The next free Greenbelt Makerspace Repair Café is on Saturday, October 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Granite Building, 115 Centerway. Come learn how to repair tired or broken stuff (experienced and novice volunteers needed). See tools.greenbeltmakers.org for more information.

Borrow tools and other things at the Tool Library on Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon, Sundays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursdays 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Greenbelt Farmers Market





Sundays 10a - 2p

Southway and Centerway



GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org



A representative from CASA speaks to the press at Greenbelt Courthouse on Monday, October 6, in front of community faith leaders and a large crowd of supporters for Kilmar Abrego Garcia.



The Rapid Response Choir

- Photos by Christine Doran



Supporters of all ages rally at Greenbelt Courthouse in support of Kilmar Abrego Garcia.



PHOTO BY REBECCA BOGGS

Hailey and Ruby Boggs pose with the News Review in Burlington, Vt., in front of Lake Champlain on August 12. The Boggs family stayed there for a week; it was beautiful.



PHOTO COURTESY SOPHIA WORKING

The Working family, Dave, Sophia and daughters Joanna and Anya brought the News Review along on their annual vacation to Surfside Beach in South Carolina.

RE-ELECT ROBERTS

Dear Greenbelt Neighbors, taxpayers and voters,

I am writing to let you know I am running for reelection to the Greenbelt City Council for many reasons and issues. As you may know, about a year ago I was severely criticized and punished because I asked questions and suggested that City personnel get a book to help them figure out a problem they were having with a truck engine, instead of paying an exorbitant amount of money to a dealer.

I do not want to dwell on this issue but want to share a recent experience that I have had. I have had the opportunity to repair a machine that I was totally unfamiliar with. The machine was a British motorcycle called a Royal Enfield, the model is known as a "Bullet." It is apparently famous for the fact that during World War II, many of them were air-dropped onto battlefields so they could be used by soldiers to carry messages between units. The owner told me that the engine would not run because of an electrical problem that neither he nor a mechanic he hired could figure out. As I looked over this beautiful machine, I asked a series of questions about how it came to its current no-run condition. Then I asked the big question, do you have a book, a manual? Yes he said, and he went and retrieved it. I spent a considerable amount of time studying all the major components of the machine and their proper diagnostic and maintenance procedures, including the electrical, ignition and charging systems. Because of the time I took to read that book and educate myself, within just a few hours I had the machine running and I was able to repair the electrical and ignition systems, as well as clean up a few other issues with the bike. To say the least, I had a happy customer because now he could install his sidecars and he, his wife and their dog named Otis can take a ride on their beautiful antique motorcycle that now runs as it should!

I was happy too, because I take pride in the work that I do. I also got to go on a test ride and enjoy a machine that once plied the battlefield of Europe where some of my own family once fought. I also take pride in the work I have done for our city over the years, and I promise if I am re-elected, I will continue to advocate for continuing education/training for all city employees so they can better serve Greenbelt.

I will also continue to ask questions and educate myself so the positions I take on the important issues facing our city will be educated ones.

Thank you, please pull lever 6 when you vote.

Rodney Roberts

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

By authority of Mary Johnson, treasurer

Government Shutdown

Maryland Launches Federal Shutdown Loan Program

In response to the ongoing federal government shutdown, Governor Wes Moore announced the launch of the Maryland Department of Labor’s Federal Shutdown Loan Program. Now accepting applications, the program provides financial support to Maryland residents who are “excepted” federal employees (also called “essential”), meaning they are required to continue working during a federal government shutdown but are not receiving a paycheck during that time.

The program offers a one-time no-interest loan of \$700 to help workers meet expenses like rent and groceries. The loan must be repaid 45 days after the shutdown ends, giving workers time to receive their back pay from the federal government.

Although the Federal Shutdown Loan Program application portal is open, loans will only be issued if the shutdown is still in effect on October 15. The Comptroller’s Office will then process loan requests from the Maryland Department of Labor and the Treasurer’s Office will begin mailing the first batch of loan payments on October 16.

To qualify for the loan, an applicant must be a Maryland resident and a federal employee designated as excepted during the shutdown. They will be required to provide proof of ID, Maryland residency, federal employment status and excepted status.

The loan application is now

available at mdol.submittable.com/submit, which also includes FAQs in both English and Spanish. For support, applicants can email MDshutdownloan@submittable.com or call 410-849-6424, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Furloughed federal employees – who are not working and are not being paid during the government shutdown – may be eligible for unemployment insurance benefits through the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees program (see labor.maryland.gov/unemployment-insurance). They are required to repay those benefits after the shutdown ends and they receive retroactive pay.

Furloughed employees of federal contractors – who are not working and are not being paid – may be eligible for state unemployment insurance benefits.

The federal government is the largest employer in the State of Maryland. Prior to this year’s federal workforce cuts, 269,000 Maryland residents were employed by the federal government and more than 160,000 federal civilian jobs were located in Maryland. Past government shutdowns have had direct repercussions in Maryland, with President Trump’s partial shutdown in 2018-2019 costing thousands of Marylanders \$778 million in wages.

Since the Trump Administration took office in January, Maryland has lost more than 15,000

federal jobs – the largest number in the nation. The potential mass firing of more federal workers and furloughing of tens of thousands of contractors in Maryland as the result of a shutdown will only further jeopardize Maryland’s economy.

This information was drawn from a press release from the office of Governor Wes Moore.



Government Shutdown in Second Week, Greenbelt Greatly Impacted

On October 1 a federal shutdown began when no funding legislation was passed to finance the government. As a result, federal workers and contractors have been furloughed. Some workers deemed essential must continue to go in to work while not being paid. In 2019 a bill signed into law by President Trump ensured back pay for federal workers at the end of a government shutdown. Government contractors are not guaranteed back pay.

According to Census Bureau data, in 2023 Greenbelt was home to over 1,350 federal workers, estimated to be over 14 percent of residents. In addition to those civil servants, perhaps as many are government contractors.

Prior to this month, the most recent government shutdown was

Gas or Electric Services Shut-Off Prohibited During Shutdown

On September 30, Governor Wes Moore communicated with Maryland Utility Partners, reminding the utilities of their obligation under Maryland Code, Public Utilities (“PUA”) § 7-307.4, which prohibits the termination of gas or electric service for “eligible residential customer(s)” during a government shutdown, or within seven days after the shutdown has ended. In accordance with PUA § 7-307.4, there is a prohibition against service terminations of eligible residential customers due to non-payment during a government shutdown.

Eligible residential customers include customers employed by a federal, state, or local gov-

ernment, and involuntarily furloughed due to the government shutdown.

An eligible residential customer, before termination, must verify government employment with the utility, and enter into a payment plan after the shutdown. Utility companies must provide instructions for the type of employment verification documentation accepted and methods to submit documentation to the companies within five business days of this notice.

Government Shutdown Closes Research Road to Car Traffic



The gate on Research Road leading to the BARC agricultural fields has been closed since October 2. Beyond it, a car is turning around. The pedestrian gate to the right remains open.

As a result of the government shutdown, the gate on Research Road that leads to Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) has been closed since Thursday, October 2.

Over the last week hundreds of cars have had to turn around when they’ve reached the gate on one side or the other, reports Research Road resident Cathie Meetre.

Meanwhile, the small gate to the right of the road remains open, allowing pedestrians and cyclists to continue to use the route.

Meetre told the News Review that on Friday, October 3, so many cars turned around in the

roadway she feared they’d back into each other or the ditch. She took a homemade sign to the intersection of Ridge Road and Research Road to warn drivers it was now a dead end ahead.

Greetings Greenbelters!

Thank you to the *News Review* for the opportunity to answer questions of interest to residents!

Please visit my website, www.KristenForCouncil.us, to learn more about me and my aspirations for the City.

Cheers,







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45N Ridge Road
Available Now!



2 BD | 2 BA \$340,000

This roomy 2-bedroom brick Greenbelt co-op townhome has been expanded to create a space that could be used as a third bedroom, or a great home office or family room, with a second full bath.

16N Ridge Road
Under Contract



3 BD | 2 BA \$256,000

This charmer features a rare first-floor addition with a full bath, perfect as a third bedroom or cozy sitting room, along with fresh updates and great outdoor spaces for morning coffee or evening relaxation.

58C Ridge Road
Under Contract



2 BD | 2 BA \$290,000

This charmer has a very smart addition that includes a second full bath. Plus, a kitchen bump-out brings in more light and extra workspace, and other fun architectural details add flair and practicality to this co-op townhome.

Kim Kash
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COMPASS

New Deal Café Celebrates 30; Dedicates Stage to McMullin

Over the weekend, the New Deal Café (NDC) celebrated its 30th anniversary with music, dancing, art, bubbles, community and cake.

During the celebration, the NDC dedicated its performance stage to Richard McMullin. McMullin, the Café’s first music co-ordinator and past president, devoted countless hours, unbounded energy, selfless spirit and personal capital to ensure the Café was sustainable and continued to provide live music for the Greenbelt community and beyond.



Accepting the Richard McMullin dedication plaque, from left, are his son Matthew, daughter Taz, brother Mike and daughter Rachel.



Kiva in action



Festive celebrations included bubbles.



Preparation for a drum circle during the New Deal Café's 30th birthday celebration

Greenbelt librarian Emily Henriquez and her boyfriend, Greenbelter Dan Ebisawa, pose next to the Statue of Hachiko in Tokyo, Japan.



PHOTO BY DAN EBISAWA



PHOTO BY EMILY HENRIQUEZ

FRANKIE FRITZ FOR GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL

PRIORITIES

- SUPPORT FEDERAL WORKERS AND CITY WORKER'S RIGHT TO ORGANIZE
- INCREASE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY, FIX CODE VIOLATIONS, AND CAP RENT HIKES AT 3% OR LOWER
- ENHANCE BUS, BIKE, AND TRAIL NETWORKS
- PROTECT OUR IMMIGRANT AND LGBTQ+ NEIGHBORS

ABOUT FRANKIE

- 8 YEARS AS A COMMUNITY AND LABOR ORGANIZER IN MARYLAND
- HOUSING AND PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY ANALYST FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- PROUD GREENBELT HOMES INC. ("GHI") MEMBER

ENDORSED BY:



FULL LIST AT [FRANKIEFORGREENBELT.ORG/ENDORSEMENTS](https://frankieforgreenbelt.org/endorsements)

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AUTHORIZED BY FRANKIE FOR GREENBELT, EMILY FRIAS, TREASURER.



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There's a simple, convenient way for you to get preventive health screenings, enabling you to take charge of your health. Using ultrasound technology, Life Line Screening can now actually see inside your arteries for plaque buildup, one of the leading causes of stroke.

Unfortunately: 4 out of 5 people who have a stroke, their first symptom is a stroke¹.

The Good News: 80% of strokes and heart disease can be prevented².

¹ National Stroke Assoc. www.stroke.org

² American Heart Association, www.heart.org

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- o Peripheral Artery Disease
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When: Monday, October 13, 2025

Pre-registration is required. Call: (800) 772-8243

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Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefit of an additional testing or procedures

UTOPIA continued from page 1

other sites. The new devices are affordable and, so far, the practice is largely unregulated by law.

Fighting to preserve the environment continues to compel independent filmmakers. This year's selections include *The Snake and the Whale*, about the potential extinction – due to overfishing and dams – of a species of highly intelligent whale found along coastal Washington state, and the loss of salmon which the whales need to survive.

Another documentary, *Citizen Ruth: Environmental Warrior*, focuses on the life and environmental preservation battles fought by 96-year-old Ruth Wright of Boulder, Colo. Indonesian activist Rukka Sombolinggi is profiled in *The Congress* about her mission to confront the climate crisis by mobilizing indigenous communities in her country.

A number of this year's films, including *A Break in the Rain* featuring Hollywood actor Michael O'Keefe, explore the complexities of human and familial relationships. The film is about a two-week road trip shared by a grieving limo driver and a singer which spurs a deeper relationship. The film *Cameron* was a *Red Wings* Fan looks at the story of the complicated reunion of siblings following the death of their estranged father. *I Exist* tells the story of a boy's compassion for a hard-of-hearing classmate.

Maryland's Black history is explored in the documentary *Justice and Reconciliation: From Henry Highland Garnet to Harvey Johnson*, which focuses on two Marylanders at the forefront of pushing for legal justice and cultural reconciliation for African Americans.

Another Marylander is the subject of Greenbelt filmmaker Lawrence Hawkins in *The Hawkins STEM Chronicles: Elizabeth Ellicott Lea*, Agent of STEM. Not only did Elizabeth Ellicott Lea, a 19th century author, write the first Maryland cookbook, her work made a pioneering contribution to the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Contemporary Marylanders are featured in several short films about preserving Maryland folklife traditions through personal mentoring and events like the annual soapbox derby featured in *Heritage Award: Frostburg Derby Day*, when kids race homemade derby cars down Frostburg's Main Street. *Black Doll Making Folklife Apprenticeship*, *Sharecropper-style Quilting Folklife Apprenticeship* and *Kitchen Gardening Folklife Apprenticeship* demonstrate how traditional crafts and kitchen skills can be handed down.

For schedule information, see the Utopia ad in this week's paper. For more detailed Festival information, visit utopiafilmfestival.org online.

Letters from page 2

States Department of Agriculture sells any portion of the property known as the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the [Prince George's County] district council shall place and permanently maintain the land in a zoning classification of agricultural open space immediately after the transfer of the land to the buyer. All we may need is vigilance, to ensure that the law remains on the books and that the county complies with it.

Ron Benjamin

Lake Cleanup

The September 27 Buddy At-tick Lake cleanup and reporting provides hope for humanity, lake animals and our environment. Thank you to the cleanup volunteers, Public Works, park rangers and reporter/photographer Nick Hall NH for all their great work!

Jeff Harrison

Incumbents Have Not Always Been Re-elected

I was surprised to learn that city council incumbent candidates have not always been re-elected. Thanks to the News Review's online archive, I was able to find three examples of when this has happened. In both 1961 and 1965, an incumbent candidate was not re-elected. In 1963, three incumbent candidates were not re-elected. That was back when council consisted of five members. Two of those elections were followed by a run-off election because not enough candidates received a 50 percent majority of the votes cast. I also found that city elections used to be held in September.

Alex Barnes

GCC Donation Drive October 25 and 26

The Greenbelt Community Church will collect clothing, household textiles, small household goods and books on Saturday, October 25 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday, October 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Place soft goods in plastic bags and hard goods in boxes that one person can carry. Books must be boxed separately. Oversized items cannot be accepted.

Donations will be taken to Value Village, which pays the church. The church will use these funds to support the Greenbelt Emergency Fund.

Canned food will also be accepted to be added to the church's ongoing collection for the local food bank, Help By Phone.

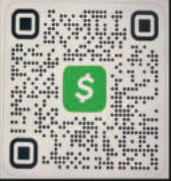
The church is located at 1 Hillside Road. Use the driveway at the rear of the building to drop off donations. For questions, email the Greenbelt Community Church at office@greenbeltucc.org.



PHOTO COURTESY CAROL SLATIN

Carol Slatin reads the News Review at the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Ark. (State #49, by the way — stay tuned!)

Re-Elect



Silke Pope

to City Council

Working Together to Make A Difference

PUBLIC SAFETY - I will continue to support the Greenbelt Police Department and the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, making sure both agencies are fully staffed, funded, functional and dedicated to maintaining a safe environment for all city residents.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND STABILITY - I will support the growth of Greenbelt's small businesses and explore new tax-based income opportunities for city residents.

GREENBELT COMMUNITY - I will continuously support a variety of programs for our seniors and youths, in addition to helping sustain our community's arts programs and environmental standards to keep Greenbelt environmentally proactive.

Donations to Silke's Campaign can be sent to CashApp @ SilkePope@outlook.com

Please, **VOTE #4** on Ballot November 4th, 2025

Authorized by C. Backstrom, Treasurer

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
Meetings of the GHI Board of Directors
on October 16, 2025

GHI Closed Meeting – starts at 7:00 p.m. – closed to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Closed Meeting Held on October 2, 2025
- b) Legal Matters
- c) Financial Matters
- d) Contract Matters
- e) Member Matters

GHI Open Meeting – starts after GHI Closed Meeting – open to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GHI Open Meeting Held on October 2, 2025
- b) Statements of Closed Meetings Held on October 2, 2025 & October 16, 2025
- c) NCB Stock
- d) Member-to-Member Co-op Fund Relief
- e) Board Vacancy
- f) SWMS Permeable Pavement Report
- g) Motion to Hold a Closed Meeting on November 6, 2025

GDC Open Meeting – starts after GHI Open Meeting – open to members and visitors

- a) Approve Minutes of the GDC Open Meeting Held on August 14, 2025
- b) Appointment of GDC Board Member
- c) Finance Committee GDC Fee Schedule Recommendation

Members and visitors who wish to attend the Open meetings must register in advance via the following link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/9tZwtd-uqzoiG9XHGq9rswP_N9LZj33gbi9r

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

VIOLENCE continued from page 1

residents, but the teenaged boy lived in Greenbelt and was a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS).

Local Teen Mourned

The murder of the local 14-year-old student, in what is thought to be a targeted drive-by shooting in the middle of a Sunday afternoon, has particularly shaken the community. Witnesses report seeing a silver Infiniti with dark tinted windows and no front license plate, driving at a high rate of speed into the area. Police believe there were multiple occupants in the vehicle and multiple rounds of gunshots were fired at a group of youths, resulting in Bayong being struck. The car then fled from the scene. Greenbelt police officers responded and attempted to provide life-saving care, said Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers, but ultimately the boy died from his injuries.

On Monday, ERHS Principal Portia Barnes sent a message to the community identifying the student as Carlin Bayong of the class of 2029. His death was “due to neighborhood gun violence,” she said. Barnes asked those who knew him to remember and celebrate his life and asked for understanding, respect and support from those who did not. A team of school psychologists, professional school counselors and pupil personnel workers from Prince George’s County Public Schools joined staff Monday morning to provide support to students. “Counseling will continue to be available as long as necessary,” said Barnes in a message to the school community.

Targeted Gun Violence

Police say the weekend shootings were not by chance. “We believe at this point that these were known individuals and that everybody involved in both incidents was familiar with each other. This was not a random event,” said Bowers of the two fatal shootings that took place during daylight hours on the weekend. Because they were targeted, “that doesn’t necessarily equal a larger public safety concern,” he said on Monday. Greenbelt Police have added a number of additional police officers in both marked and unmarked cars to patrol particularly in the Franklin Park area but also across the entire city. Speaking on Monday Bowers said he wanted to assure residents “our community is safe,” and added, “These incidents, while tragic, don’t mean that the City of Greenbelt is not a safe place to live or to visit.”

Location

All three fatal shootings took place close to each other, in the Franklin Park community. There are three schools in that



Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers holds a press conference about the two fatal shootings that took place over the weekend.

area: Springhill Lake Elementary, Greenbelt Middle and Dora Kennedy French Immersion, though they were not in session at the time of the shootings. Police say they believe the shootings were unrelated.

A representative from Fieldstone Properties, which owns Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station Apartments, did not respond to our request for comment on how the apartment management is responding to the recent shootings. Calls to Franklin Park were fielded by AI and messages yielded no callback at press time.

Search for Solutions

Both shootings on the weekend “are extraordinarily tragic and serve as a stark reminder that violence threatens our community and that words will not solve our problem,” said Bowers. He noted both of the victims last weekend were young people who would be missed by families and loved ones.

“How do we come together as not only a city here in Greenbelt but a county and a state that continues to see young people involved in violent incidents on a regular basis?” asked Bowers on Monday.

“As long as we leave it up to kids to stop crime it’s never go-

ing to happen,” he said.

“We have to start trying to solve these things and find solutions,” said Bowers. “It starts with adults and it’s starting at home by parents who instill values in their kids; it starts in our school systems where we have an ability to teach our kids values. Then it’s the social justice system, the criminal justice system that provide the safety net for kids who have a difficult time growing up.” Bowers noted that he had made a similar speech 18 months ago following the Senior Skip Day shooting at Schrom Hills Park, though fortunately no one lost their life then (see the April 24, 2024, issue).

Mayor Emmett Jordan said the community grieves together and has to work together to get to the root causes of these tragic events and work with young adults, in particular, to “interrupt” the gun violence before it happens.

Call for Witnesses

Bowers said the police are looking for assistance from residents and need some of the multiple witnesses to come forward. Some youths don’t want to talk because they don’t want to be considered snitches, he acknowledged. “It’s not being a snitch; it’s called doing the right thing,” said Bowers. “Without that information something else like this could happen again,” he warned. “It could happen to them or their friend.” He asked parents to convince their children it’s the right thing to do to come forward and provide information. Information can be provided anonymously by reaching out to the police department, said Bowers.

Police have conducted their initial investigation, said Bowers. They are now pulling camera data, license plate reader data, interviewing witnesses and exploring forensics and cellphones, among other avenues. “We have a lot of work in front of us but we have all the tools that we need to get there,” said Bowers.

Annual Pooch Plunge Brings Joyful End to Extended Season

by Nick Hall NH and Anna Bedford-Dillow



The biggest dog there, Ollie, runs after a ball.

On Saturday, October 4, dogs crowded the shallow end of Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center’s (GAFC) outdoor pool in what has become an annual end-of-season tradition.

As summer turns to fall each year, the GAFC closes the outdoor pool and opens the indoor pool. Usually, the final day to enjoy the outdoor pool is Labor

Day, shortly after which they open the gates to canine residents for their annual chance to take a plunge. This year the outdoor pool remained open through September while repairs were completed on the indoor pool. The indoor pool reopened September 29.

Despite the delayed closing, See **POOCH**, page 17



A dog reaches out toward a ball, instead of jumping into the pool.



- Photos by Nick Hall NH

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October 18, 2025 | 12 - 6PM
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Council Moves Toward Changes In Trash Metering, Charter Review

by Stephen Lotz

Greenbelt residents will soon pay for trash based on how much they throw away, as a contract with WasteZero, Inc. was approved at the September 24 Greenbelt City Council meeting. That was one of several major actions taken at a meeting that also addressed annexation plans (see article in the October 2 issue), the charter review taskforce and parking concerns, among other things.

Charter Review

Council voted 4 to 3 to remove demographic and categorical membership representation requirements for the city's Charter Review Task Force while maintaining the 15-member size. Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Danielle McKinney, both of whom wanted to see a reduction in the number of members on the task force, along with Councilmember Silke Pope, who didn't speak on the topic, voted no.

The resolution was introduced for first reading and, with a suspension of the rules, also a second reading and adoption. The resolution stipulates that the Task Force shall consist of 15 members appointed by council, and the "prior requirements specifying numbers of members by residency, business affiliation, staff position or council service are hereby repealed and removed," as it explained, "to allow broader flexibility in appointments." Mayor Emmett Jordan said that aspirationally council had wanted to include representatives from various parts of the city and various types of organizations but over the past seven or eight months they've been unable to do that. The resolution allows appointments to be made at council's discretion based on interviews conducted over recent months, Jordan said.

Roberts suggested fewer members should be required. Councilmember Amy Knesel said recruiting volunteers had been difficult but the city still had "really solid applicants." Jordan added, "We just need to get going and get it in place." Resident and council candidate Bill Orleans spoke against the need for a Charter Review Taskforce and called for scheduled public discussions on the charter instead. Resident Frankie Fritz, also a council candidate, said council should track their progress with community outreach mechanisms, civic infrastructure and the development of civic leaders.

Contract Approved

Council voted 6 to 1 (with Roberts opposed) to approve a contract with WasteZero, Inc. to implement the Save As You Throw program, scheduled to begin January 1, 2026. The pilot program was unanimously approved by council at the September 8 meeting (see the September 17 issue). Under the plan, residents would be required to purchase official city trash bags or stickers and pay based on the volume of their waste.

WasteZero will manage the production and distribution of bags and deposit revenue into a city-controlled custodial account. Councilmember Kristen Weaver said approving the contract now gives the city more time to con-



Monica Tapia, who runs a family business utilizing the commercial kitchen in the Community Center, talks about her family's special recipe and their expanding regional distribution. Members of her family received the city's Hispanic Heritage Month proclamation.



Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, environmental coordinator, shares news of upcoming volunteer opportunities after receiving a Public Lands Day proclamation. Resident Michael Hartman is in the foreground.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow

duct public outreach and educate residents, calling the new system "something new and different."

Temporary Parliamentarian

A separate proposal to hire a temporary parliamentarian to help enforce Robert's Rules of Order was tabled after debate over whether it should wait until a new council is seated following the November election.

Ironically, Jordan recognized Orleans to speak after the motion was tabled. Reminded by Weaver that the item was no longer under discussion, Jordan attempted to move on, while Orleans for some time objected that he had been recognized and shouted over Jordan that he had a right to speak. "I'm going to stand here and speak until I'm put out again," said Orleans, who continued until City Manager Josué Salmerón intervened.

Parking Changes Urged

McKinney introduced parking concerns raised by fellow residents from Greenbelt Station about a shortage of parking spaces there. The residents report unrestricted parking on public streets often leaves them without places near their homes. Nonresidents were taking up spaces in the community, which also raised safety concerns, said McKinney. One resident's email said "residents often cannot find parking" and that "a uniform permit only policy would make for a far simpler and more equitable solution." McKinney suggested a worksession on setting up restricted areas for residents on public streets, if possible, within Greenbelt Station and other communities. Pope noted there is a public park in Greenbelt Station, which may attract visitors who wouldn't have a permit. Weaver suggested a study to gather information about various areas and challenges in the city prior to a worksession. The staff recommendation was a citywide parking study before making any decisions, said Weaver.

Ammunition Purchase

As part of the consent agenda, council approved the annual police ammunition purchase totaling \$11,484.30. The ammunition is to be used for annual mandatory training. Council has \$18,500 in the Fiscal Year 2026 budget for firearms and ammunition.

POOCH continued from page 14

this year, like others, dozens of neighborhood dogs came to swim and play. Handlers and family members were able to enjoy the afternoon playing fetch and watching their dogs socialize. The furry residents were fortunate to have a series of unseasonably hot days that warmed the waters and made for a pleasant October dip. Some pups leapt into the pool after balls, some waded

in to swim, some bounced and splashed where they could stay happily standing and some stayed dry entirely, instead chasing each other and playing around the sides of the pool.

Owners paid \$10 a dog for admission, money that will go to help Greenbelt's animal shelter. Fun had by its final visitors, the pool will now be drained and closed until next summer.



Lindy swims back after retrieving a ball.



A lifeguard watches over the dogs at the annual Pooch Plunge at the outdoor pool on Saturday, October 4.

- Photos by Nick Hall NH

Community Questionnaire

Also through the consent agenda, council approved changes to the Community Questionnaire for this year. Two additional questions will be "Describe what you like most about the Greenbelt community" and "What improvements to the City or new City programs would you suggest?"

Looking Ahead

The meeting also included proclamations recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and National Public Lands Day, updates on infrastructure projects and scheduling decisions for upcoming meetings, including a December 6 council retreat and a change to the November meeting calendar to avoid Thanksgiving week.

With votes cast and next steps outlined, more discussion and public input are expected as plans for trash collection, annexation, parking and city governance move forward.

Stephen Lotz is a University of Maryland Student in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the Greenbelt News Review. Anna Bedford-Dillow contributed to this report.



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Sports

Victory Places ERHS Atop the County

by Patrick Gleason

A supermoon rose while the sun set on Monday, October 6. Likewise, the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Raiders girls soccer team ascended to county supremacy during their 4-0 victory over the Charles Herbert Flowers Jaguars. The win secured the Raiders first place in the current Prince George's County 4A League standings. Despite a loss to Bowie earlier this season, the Raiders have returned to first with Monday's victory nudging them past the Jaguars, while Bowie has lost to Flowers and tied Bladensburg. Therefore, if the Raiders win out they will earn a spot in the county championship game on October 21.

Facing heavy pressure from Flowers, the Raiders countered with quick ball movement and continual switches, played through center midfielders Autumn Freeman and Claire Alolga. Despite dominant Raider possession, a scoreless first half seemed likely, until the Raiders earned a corner kick, taken in front of a setting sun. With the ball sent into the heart of the box, a Jaguar defender looked to guide the ball away from danger. Instead, the ball redirected on goal, providing the Raiders with a 1-0 lead. As the final seconds ticked away, Alolga settled a loose ball and dribbled to her right past a defender who attempted to recover from Alolga's left and prevent a shot. But it was too late. The ball left Alolga's foot and followed a magnetic pull to the inside of the post where it ricocheted into the back of the net for a strike as flawless as it was ruthless. The referee's



Junior Ariana Cruzin action

final whistle couldn't overcome the Raider chorus celebrating the goal of the season.

However, Roosevelt was not finished with impressive strikes. As the second half commenced, Freeman beat multiple defenders to the endline before cutting a pass back to the middle of the box where fullback Emery Gregory darted into the space. Pouncing on the pass and the opportunity, Gregory finished a one-touch left-footed shot into the corner of the net for another picture-perfect Raider strike. Freeman finished another goal for the Raiders after junior Ariana Cruz played classmate Julia Visnic past the Jaguar backline. Visnic cut back inside then found Freeman, the Raider's leading goal scorer, whose shot deflected off the keeper's outstretched arms on the right side of the goal, earning



Senior Leilah Eggleston looks to distribute in the Raider midfield as the team marches toward a hopeful date in the county championship game.

- Photos by Vanessa van der Have

ing the Raiders another tally for insurance. As the clock dwindled, the evening sky reminded the Raiders that, despite a slow start to the season, they are peaking at the right time.

Junior Varsity

Meanwhile, the junior varsity recovered from a week featuring their first loss with another victory over the Bowie Bulldogs. Freshman Mia Moore continued an impressive freshmen season by beating the Bulldog keeper toward the end of the first half.

That strike proved to be enough for the Raiders who continued to control possession during the afternoon en route to their 1-0 triumph. Both teams will host High Point on Monday, October 13, with JV playing at 4 p.m. and varsity at 5:30 p.m. The game will serve as the senior night celebration for a class of 10 Raiders who refuse to wane as the season progresses.



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10 AM - 12 PM	The Hawkins STEM Chronicles: Elizabeth Ellicott Lea, Agent of STEM 5 min Black Doll Making Folklife Apprenticeship 5 min Prime Real Estate 15 min Optics of Aging 56 min	Heritage Award: Frostburg Derby Day 5 min Sharecropper-style Quilting Folklife Apprenticeship 7 min Cameron Was a Red Wings Fan 20 min State Champions 43 min	Gardener of the Galaxy 11 min Tea Travel 18 min The Poetry of Discarded Matters 51 min
12 PM - 2 PM	Projecting Protest 22 min Citizen Ruth: Environmental Warrior 69 min	I'm Enough 11 min Beneath the Teal Tree Branch 10 min Not a Rookie Sandpiper 15 min The Third Child 26 min	Sharecropper-style Quilting Folklife Apprenticeship 7 min Kitchen Gardening Folklife Apprenticeship 7 min The Congress 11 min The Lost Trees of Willow Avenue 15 min
2 PM - 4 PM	A Break in the Rain 112 min	A Walk Through The Woods 8 min Life Support 11 min In Every Possible Way 19 min Memory Project 20 min Invisible String 21 min	Zapop! 3 min Vasomotor Rhinitis 15 min Projecting Protest 22 min Justice and Reconciliation: From Henry Highland Garnet to Harvey Johnson 33 min

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12 PM - 2 PM	The Congress 11 min Gardener of the Galaxy 11 min Who Do You Think You Are? 71 min	Intangible Zone 15 min The Snake and the Whale 69 min	Memory Project 20 min Citizen Ruth: Environmental Warrior 69 min
2 PM - 4 PM	Zapop! 3 min Single Payer Renegade 3 min Vasomotor Rhinitis 15 min Justice and Reconciliation: From Henry Highland Garnet to Harvey Johnson 33 min Not a Token Bill 30 min	A Walk Through The Woods 8 min Tea Travel 18 min The Neighbors 22 min The Poetry of Discarded Matters 51 min	A Break in the Rain 112 min

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